

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

#### *Routine Proceedings, pages S1913–S1965*

**Measures Introduced:** Sixteen bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 602–617, S. Res. 80–81, and S. Con. Res. 9. **Page S1950**

#### **Measures Passed:**

**National Ag Day 40th Anniversary:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 81, commemorating March 19, 2013, as the 40th anniversary of National Ag Day. **Page S1957**

#### **Measures Considered:**

**Department of Defense, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act—Agreement:** Senate continued consideration of H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1914, S1928–44**

##### **Pending:**

Reid (for Mikulski/Shelby) Modified Amendment No. 26, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1914**

Toomey Amendment No. 115 (to Amendment No. 26), to increase by \$60,000,000 the amount appropriated for Operation and Maintenance for the Department of Defense for programs, projects, and activities in the continental United States, and to provide an offset. **Page S1914**

Durbin Amendment No. 123 (to Amendment No. 115), to change the enactment date. **Page S1914**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 11:15 a.m., on Wednesday, March 20, 2013, all post-cloture time on Reid (for Mikulski/Shelby) Modified Amendment No. 26 (listed above), be considered expired; that Durbin Amendment No. 123 (to Amendment No. 115) (listed above), be withdrawn with no other second-degree amendment in order; that Senate vote on or in relation to Toomey Amendment No. 115 (to Amendment No. 26) (listed above); that upon disposition of Toomey Amendment No. 115 (to Amendment No. 26), Senate vote on or in relation to Reid (for Mikulski/Shelby) Modified Amendment No. 26, as amended;

that upon disposition of Reid (for Mikulski/Shelby) Modified Amendment No. 26, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill; and that if cloture is invoked on the bill, the 30 hours post-cloture begin to run as if cloture were invoked at 1 a.m., on Wednesday, March 20, 2013. **Page S1957**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 20, 2013, with the time until 11:15 a.m. equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees. **Page S1957**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Patricia E. Campbell-Smith, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Elaine D. Kaplan, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Michael Kenny O’Keefe, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Robert D. Okun, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Thomas Edward Perez, of Maryland, to be Secretary of Labor.

Catherine M. Russell, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women’s Issues.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

29 Army nominations in the rank of general.

5 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army, and Navy.

**Pages S1958–65**

**Messages from the House:**

**Page S1949**

**Executive Communications:**

**Pages S1949–50**

**Executive Reports of Committees:**

**Page S1950**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages S1946–49**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

**Pages S1951–56**

**Additional Statements:** Pages S1946–49

**Notices of Hearings/Meetings:** Pages S1956–57

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** Page S1957

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:39 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 20, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S1957–58.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States European Command, United States Northern Command, and United States Southern Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Admiral James Stavridis, United States Navy, Commander, United States European Command, General Charles H. Jacoby, Jr., United States Army, Commander, United States Northern Command, and North American Aerospace Defense Command, and General John F. Kelly, United States Marine Corps, Commander, United States Southern Command, all of the Department of Defense.

### DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities received open and closed briefings on cybersecurity threats in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Kevin Mandia, and Richard Bejtlich, both of Mandiant Corporation, Alexandria, Virginia; Stephanie O'Sullivan, Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, Miriam Perlberg, National Intelligence Manager for Cyber, and Sean Kanuck, National Intelligence Officer for Cyber Issues, all of the Office of National Intelligence; and Lieutenant General Jon M. Davis, USMC, Deputy Commander, U.S. Cyber Command.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Richard Cordray, of Ohio, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and Mary Jo White, of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### BIPARTISAN SOLUTIONS FOR HOUSING FINANCE REFORM

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine bipartisan solutions for housing finance reform, after receiving testimony from former Senator Mel Martinez, Co-Chair, Bipartisan Policy Center's Housing Commission; Peter Wallison, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.; and Janneke Ratcliffe, Center for American Progress Action Fund, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

### INSURANCE MARKETS

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance and Investment concluded a hearing to examine streamlining regulation, improving consumer protection and increasing competition in insurance markets, including S. 534, to reform the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers, after receiving testimony from Baird Webel, Specialist in Financial Economics, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Monica J. Lindeen, Montana State Auditor and Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, Helena, on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; Jon Jensen, Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America, Spartanburg, South Carolina; and Scott Trofholz, The Harry A. Koch Company, Omaha, Nebraska, on behalf of The Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers.

### UNITED STATES FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine developments and opportunities in United States fisheries management, after receiving testimony from Eric Schwaab, Assistant Administrator for the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; Robert Beal, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Executive Director, Arlington, Virginia; Randy Fisher, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission Executive Director, Portland, Oregon; Dave Donaldson, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Assistant Director, Ocean Springs, Mississippi; James J. Gilmore, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Bureau of Marine Fisheries Director, East Setauket; Emerson C. Hasbrouck, Cornell University Cooperative Extension Marine Program, Riverhead, New York; and Thomas P. Fote, Jersey Coast Anglers Association, Toms River, New Jersey, on behalf of the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs.

## PAYMENT PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the options and challenges related to possible reauthorization and reform of two payment programs for local governments, focusing on the recently expired “Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act” and the “Payment in Lieu of Taxes”, after receiving testimony from Senator Baucus; Thomas Tidwell, Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Pamela K. Haze, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition; Anne-Marie Fennell, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; Jay O’Laughlin, University of Idaho College of Natural Resources, Moscow; Mark Haggerty, Headwaters Economics, Bozeman, Montana; Paul J. Pearce, National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition, Stevenson, Washington; and Ryan R. Yates, National Association of Counties, Washington, D.C.

## PRESIDENT’S TRADE AGENDA

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President’s 2013 trade agenda, after receiving testimony from Demetrios Marantis, Acting United States Trade Representative.

## SYRIA’S HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs concluded a hearing to examine Syria’s humanitarian crisis, after receiving testimony from Anne C. Richard, Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration; Nancy E. Lindborg, Assistant Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development; Antonio Guterres, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, New York, New York; and Tom Malinowski, Human Rights Watch, and Michael Singh, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, both of Washington, D.C.

## RETIREMENT SAVINGS

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine keeping savings in the retirement system, after receiving testimony from Matt Fellowes, HelloWallet, and Christian E. Weller, University of Massachusetts Boston, on behalf of the Center for American Progress Action Fund, both of Washington, D.C.; and Alison T. Borland, Aon Hewitt, Lincolnshire, Illinois.

## AMERICAN AIRLINES/US AIRWAYS MERGER

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine the American Airlines/US Airways merger, focusing on consolidation, competition, and consumers, after receiving testimony from W. Douglas Parker, US Airways Group, Inc., Tempe, Arizona; Thomas W. Horton, AMR Corporation and American Airlines, Fort Worth, Texas; Diana L. Moss, American Antitrust Institute, Washington, D.C.; and William J. McGee, Consumers Union, New York, New York.

## NOMINATIONS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Gregory Alan Phillips, of Wyoming, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Enzi and Barrasso, and Karol Virginia Mason, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

## INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee ordered favorably its Biennial Report for the 112th Congress.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 31 public bills, H.R. 1244–1274; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 26–27; and H. Res. 127–129 were introduced.

Pages H1629–32

**Additional Cosponsors:**

Pages H1632–33

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 127, dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Twenty Eighth District of Texas (H. Rept. 113–22).

Page H1629

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Collins (NY) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1571**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:42 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1576**

**Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Rev. Alisa Lasater Wailoo, Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, Washington, DC. **Page H1576**

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 133 nays with 1 answering "present", Roll No. 81. **Page H1590**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 1:43 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m. **Page H1588**

*Dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Twenty Eighth Congressional District of Texas:* Agreed by unanimous consent to H. Res. 127, to dismiss the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Twenty Eighth Congressional District of Texas. **Page H1590**

*Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress:* The House agreed to H. Res. 115, to provide for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 136 nays, Roll No. 82.

**Pages H1581–90, S1591–97**

H. Res. 122, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) and the resolution (H. Res. 115), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 80, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas 189 nays, Roll No. 79.

**Pages H1588–90**

*Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014:* The House began consideration of H. Con. Res. 25, to establish the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, March 20th.

**Pages H1581–90, S1597–H1625**

H. Res. 122, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) and the resolution (H. Res. 115), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 80, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas 189 nays, Roll No. 79.

**Pages H1588–90**

**Quorum Calls Votes:**—Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear

on pages H1588–90, H1589–90, H1590 and H1596–97. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Department of Energy, Environmental Management. Testimony was heard from Dave Huizenga, Acting Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

### APPROPRIATIONS—HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OFFICERS FY 2014 BUDGET

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Request for House of Representatives Officers. Testimony was heard from Daniel J. Strodel, Chief Administrative Officer; Karen L. Haas, Clerk; and Paul D. Irving, Sergeant at Arms.

### APPROPRIATIONS—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION OVERSIGHT

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on General Services Administration Oversight. Testimony was heard from Dan Tangherlini, Acting Administrator, General Services Administration.

### APPROPRIATIONS—TOP MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Top Management Challenges at the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education: Perspective from the Inspector Generals. Testimony was heard from Elliot P. Lewis, Assistant Inspector General, Office of Audit, Department of Labor; Kathleen S. Tighe, Inspector General, Department of Education; Daniel R. Levinson, Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services.

### APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION BUDGET; AND YOUTH VIOLENCE RESEARCH

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on National Science Foundation Budget; and Youth Violence Research. Testimony

was heard from Subra Suresh, Director, National Science Foundation; and a public witness.

#### **APPROPRIATIONS—STATE AND FOREIGN OPERATION, AND RELATED PROGRAMS PUBLIC AND OUTSIDE WITNESSES**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operation and Related Programs held a hearing for public and outside witnesses.

#### **APPROPRIATIONS—INDIAN HEALTH OVERSIGHT**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior held a hearing on Indian Health Oversight. Testimony was heard from Yvette Roudibeaux, M.D., Indian Health Service; and public witnesses.

#### **APPROPRIATIONS—QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE MILITARY**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Quality of Life in the Military. Testimony was heard from Sergeant Major Raymond F. Chandler III, Sergeant Major of the Army; Master Chief Petty Officer Michael D. Stevens, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy; Sergeant Major Michael P. Barrett, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps; and Chief Master Sergeant James A. Cody, Sergeant of the Air Force.

#### **APPROPRIATIONS—FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION BUDGET**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Federal Bureau of Investigation Budget. Testimony was heard from Robert S. Mueller III, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

#### **EQUIPPING, MODERNIZING, AND SUSTAINING THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE COMPONENTS AS AN OPERATIONAL FORCE IN A TIME OF BUDGET UNCERTAINTY**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on Equipping, Modernizing, and Sustaining the National Guard and Reserve Components as an Operational Force in a time of Budget Uncertainty. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Stanley E. Clarke III, Director, Air National Guard, USAF; Lieutenant General William E. Ingram Jr., Director, Army National Guard, USA; Lieutenant General James “JJ” Jackson, Chief, U.S. Air Force Reserve, USAF; and Lieutenant General Jeffrey W. Talley, Chief, U.S. Army Reserve and Commanding General, USAR.

#### **NUCLEAR DETERRENT: WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A STRONG DETERRENT IN AN ERA OF DEFENSE SEQUESTER**

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing on the U.S. Nuclear Deterrent: What Are the Requirements for A Strong Deterrent in an Era of Defense Sequester? Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **AMERICAN ENERGY SECURITY AND INNOVATION**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled “American Energy Security and Innovation: The Role of Regulators and Grid Operators in Meeting Natural Gas and Electric Coordination Challenges”. Testimony was heard from Philip D. Moeller, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Cheryl A. LaFleur, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and public witnesses.

#### **HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES: HARNESSING WIRELESS INNOVATION**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Health Information Technologies: Harnessing Wireless Innovation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **SUSTAINABLE HOUSING FINANCE**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Full Committee held a hearing “Sustainable Housing Finance: An Update from the Federal Housing Finance Agency on the GSE Conservatorships”. Testimony was heard from Edward J. DeMarco, Acting Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

#### **THE WAY FORWARD IN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Middle East and North Africa; and Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing entitled “After the Withdrawal: The Way Forward in Afghanistan and Pakistan” (Part I). Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a hearing entitled “Homeland Security Grants: Measuring Our Investments”. Testimony was heard from Tim Manning, Deputy Administrator, Protection and National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Anne Richards, Assistant Inspector General for Audits, Office of Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; David

Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues; Government Accountability Office.

#### **DHS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency held a hearing entitled “DHS Information Technology: How Effectively Has DHS Harnessed IT to Secure Our Borders and Uphold Immigration Laws?”. Testimony was heard from Margie Graves, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Department of Homeland Security; David Powner, Director, Information Technology Management Issues, Government Accountability Office; and Charles K. Edwards, Deputy Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security.

#### **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PRIVACY ACT**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigation held a hearing entitled “The Electronic Communications Privacy Act, Part 1”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **RELEASE OF CRIMINAL DETAINEES BY U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT: POLICY OR POLITICS?**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Release of Criminal Detainees by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement: Policy or Politics?”. Testimony was heard from John Morton, Director, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

#### **LEGISLATIVE MEASURE**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environment Regulations held a hearing on H.R. 1126, to facilitate the completion of an appropriate national memorial to Dwight D. Eisenhower. Testimony was heard from Representative Issa; Carl W. Reddel, Executive Director, Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission; and public witnesses.

#### **AUTHORIZATION, STANDARDS, AND PROCEDURES FOR WHETHER, HOW, AND WHEN INDIAN TRIBES SHOULD BE NEWLY RECOGNIZED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing entitled “Authorization, standards, and procedures for whether, how, and when Indian tribes should be newly recognized by the federal government: Perspective of the Department of the Interior”. Testimony was heard from Kevin Washburn, Assistant

Secretary for Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.

#### **IMPLEMENTING AGENCY WATCHDOGS' RECOMMENDATIONS COULD SAVE TAXPAYERS BILLIONS**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “DOD and DHS: Implementing Agency Watchdogs' Recommendations Could Save Taxpayers Billions”. Testimony was heard from Robert Hale, Under Secretary of Defense Comptroller and CFO, Department of Defense; Lynne Halbrooks, Principal Deputy Inspector General, Department of Defense; Rafael Borrás; Under Secretary for Management, Department of Homeland Security; and Charles Edward, Deputy Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security.

#### **UNDERSTANDING THE ADMINISTRATION'S DECISIONS ON SPENDING CUTS AND FURLOUGHS**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Job Creation and Regulatory Affairs and the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and the Census joint subcommittee held a hearing entitled, “Sequestration Oversight: Understanding the Administration's Decisions on Spending Cuts and Furloughs”. Testimony was heard from David Robbins, Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission; Michael Young, USDA Budget Director, Department of Agriculture; Hari Sastry, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Resource Management, Department of Commerce.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S STRATEGY FOR EXPORTING LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care and Entitlements held a hearing entitled “The Department of Energy's Strategy for Exporting Liquefied Natural Gas”. Testimony was heard from Chris Smith, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

#### **REVIEW OF U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO TRACK AND MITIGATE ASTEROIDS AND METEORS**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Threats from Space: A Review of U.S. Government Efforts to Track and Mitigate Asteroids and Meteors, Part 1”. Testimony was heard from John P. Holdren, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President; William L. Shelton, Commander, U.S. Air Force Space Command; Charles F. Bolden, Jr.,

Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

## CHALLENGES FOR SERVICE-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce; and Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a joint subcommittee hearing entitled "Consistently Inconsistent: Challenges for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses". Testimony was heard from William Shear, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; A. John Shoraka, Associate Administrator, Office of Government Contracting and Business Development, Small Business Administration; Tom Leney, Executive Director, Veterans and Small Business Programs, Department of Veterans Affairs.

## TAX REFORM AND TAX PROVISIONS AFFECTING STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Tax Reform and Tax Provisions Affecting State and Local Governments". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

### HUNGARY

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:* Commission concluded a hearing to examine the trajectory of democracy in Hungary, focusing on Hungary's constitutional changes with a particular view to the independence of the judiciary, present-day Hungary's relationship to its Holocaust-era past, and the implications of Hungary's sweeping legal changes for civil society, including an independent media and religious organizations, after receiving testimony from Brent Hartley, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs; Jozsef Szajer, Hungarian Member of the European Parliament, Fidesz-Hungarian Civic Union, Budapest; Kim Lane, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey; Sylvana Habdank-Kolaczowska, Freedom House, New York, New York; and Paul A. Shapiro, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

### Senate

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Science and Space, to hold hearings to examine assessing the risks, impacts, and solutions for space threats, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine aviation safety, focusing on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) progress on key safety initiatives, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* business meeting to consider S. 601, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Finance:* to hold hearings to examine reforming the delivery system, focusing on the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine counterterrorism policies and priorities, focusing on addressing the evolving threat, 2:15 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Reauthorization Act of 2013", and S. 330, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish safeguards and standards of quality for research and transplantation of organs infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), Time to be announced, S-216.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine Hurricane Sandy, focusing on getting the recovery right and the value of mitigation, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine the future of drones in America, focusing on law enforcement and privacy considerations, 10:30 a.m., SD-226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine building an immigration system worthy of American values, 2 p.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine Veterans Affairs mental health care, focusing on ensuring timely access to high-quality care, 10 a.m., SR-418.

### House

*Committee on Agriculture:* Full Committee, business meeting to consider the following measures: H.R. 634, the "Business Risk Mitigation and Price Stabilization Act of 2013"; H.R. 677, the "Inter-Affiliate Swap Clarification Act"; H.R. 742, the "Swap Data Repository and Clearinghouse Indemnification Correction Act of 2013"; H.R. 992, the "Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act"; H.R. 1003, to improve consideration by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission of the costs and benefits of its regulations and orders; H.R. 1038, the "Public Power

Risk Management Act of 2013”; and legislation regarding the “Swap Jurisdiction Certainty Act”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, hearing on Children’s Mental Health, Oversight, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve Oversight, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure, 10 a.m., H-405 Capitol. This is a closed hearing.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, hearing on Major Construction Projects of the Department of Energy Oversight, 10 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on Judiciary Oversight, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, hearing on Education: Perspective from the Inspector Generals, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on National Aeronautics and Space Administration Budget, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services:* Full Committee, hearing on the Posture of the U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and the Workforce:* Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1120, the “Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Health Information Technologies: How Innovation Benefits Patients”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled “State of Community Banking: Is the Current Regulatory Environment Adversely Affecting Community Financial Institutions?”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee, hearing entitled “Crisis in Syria: The U.S. Response”, 9:45 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing on “Hezbollah’s Strategic Shift: A Global Terrorist Threat”, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security, hearing entitled “Measuring Outcomes to Understand the State of Border Security”, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technology, hearing entitled “Cyber Threats from China, Russia and Iran: Protecting American Critical Infrastructure”, 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, markup on H.R. 367, the “Regulations From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2013”; and H.R. 982, the “Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency (FACT) Act of 2012”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, hearing entitled “The Register’s Call for Updates to U.S. Copyright Law”, 3:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 527, the “Responsible Helium Administration and Stewardship Act”; H.R. 254, the “Bonneville Unit Clean Hydropower Facilitation Act”; H.R. 291, the “Black Hills Cemetery Act”; H.R. 507, the “Pascua Yaqui Tribe Trust Land Act”; H.R. 588, the “Vietnam Veterans Donor Acknowledgment Act of 2013”; H.R. 678, the “Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act”; H.R. 716, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to the city of Vancouver, Washington, and for other purposes; H.R. 1033, the “American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2013”; and H.R. 1159, the “Cabin Fee Act of 2013”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee, business meeting to consider the following: legislation concerning the Federal Information Technology Acquisition and Reform Act; H.R. 1211, the “FOIA Oversight and Implementation Act of 2013”; H.R. 1163, the “Federal Information Security Amendments Act of 2013”; H.R. 1162, the “Government Accountability Office Improvement Act”; legislation concerning Presidential and Federal records; H.R. 328, the “Excess Federal Building and Property Disposal Act of 2013”; H.R. 1133, the “Presidential Library Donation Reform Act”; H.R. 1104, the “Federal Advisory Committee Reform Act”; H.R. 249, the “Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2013”; H.R. 882, the “Contracting and Tax Accountability Act of 2013”; H.R. 313, the “Government Spending Accountability Act of 2013”; and legislation concerning the DC CFO Act, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “Improving EPA’s Scientific Advisory Processes”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technology, hearing entitled “Examining the Effectiveness of NIST Laboratories”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee, hearing entitled “Entrepreneurial Assistance: Examining Inefficiencies and Duplication Across Federal Programs”, 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:* Full Committee, hearing entitled “Focusing on People: A Review of VA’s Plans for Employee Training, Accountability, and Workload Management to Improve Disability Claims Processing”, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing entitled “Challenges of Achieving Fair and Consistent Disability Decisions”, 10 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing entitled “Financial Products Tax Reform”, 1:15 p.m., 1100 Longworth.



*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 20

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 933, Department of Defense, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, with up to three votes on or in relation to Toomey Amendment No. 115 (to Amendment No. 26), Reid (for Mikulski/Shelby) Modified Amendment No. 26, and the motion to invoke cloture on the bill at approximately 11:15 a.m.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 20

## House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Complete consideration of H. Con. Res. 25—Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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